

to school at this time an alternative programme will be provided for her/him for the duration of the meeting. We apologise for any potential disruption to you and your child's routine on the day of the meeting. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.

Waikato Principals Association

Recently I attended the Waikato Principals Association day in Hamilton. There were discussions around school travel plans which is a school and community approach to managing traffic and focussing on issues surrounding the school. Ideas of walking buses, cycle skills training and walking and cycling initiatives were outlined.

Bruce McIntosh from the MOE Special Education team informed us of the Positive Behaviour for Learning Plan. The plan is, be early in the life of the child and the life of the problem. Focus on prevention, whole school programmes and a small number of evidence-based programmes and deliver them well.

Julie Schumacher presented us with information on the e-asTTle assessment tool. We were introduced to understanding the tool and understanding the data. As a school wide goal we will look to continue our professional learning in this area.

John Law (NZEI) and Peter Murphy (NZSTA) spoke with us about current issues and Mr Phil Goff gave us his political spiel on National Standards. Frances Nelson, the NZEI president, spoke more in depth about National Standards and the current challenges of school leadership.

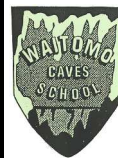
Victorinox Bread Knife

A relatively long, rounded end Victorinox knife has been misplaced after the filled roll preparations at Saturday's sports day. If you have come across it could you please return it to school. Thank you.

Community News

Mike King will be here Saturday 24th April at the Waitomo Cultural and Art Centre. Dinner and show tickets only \$65.00 each or table of 10 \$600.00 \$5.00 from each ticket sold will go towards the Otorohanga and Te Kuiti Fire Brigade. Spot prizes, Auction with the proceeds going to towards the Fire Brigades. Doors open at 5.30pm, seated by 6.15pm. Bar available. Tickets on sale now from: Te Kuiti Info Centre 07 878 8077 Panorama Motor Inn 07 878 8051. <http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2010/apr/te-kuiti/mike-king-the-devil-you-know>

Otorohanga District Library is advertising a short story writing competition which is being run by the libraries in our region in conjunction with the NZ Post Children's Book Awards. The topic for the story is "Down the back of the Farm". There are three age-group categories: 5-7 years, 8-10 years and 11-13 years. Local entries need to be submitted to the Otorohanga Library by 5.00 pm on Wednesday



Newsletter

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Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Term One 2010

Week Nine – 1 April

Dear Parents and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Congratulations to the following Sports Day Raffle recipients: Waitomo Caves School Easter Raffle – 1st Te Ao Rakete, 2nd Maxine Johnston, 3rd Ann Stubbs. Caveworld \$100 note raffle – Meads.

Our school raised approximately \$1,280 this year. Thanks you to all the parents and friends of the school who contributed their time to making the day a success. Thanks so much to the following businesses for their generous support of the school at Sports Day: New World Te Kuiti, Waitomo Glowworm Caves, Kiwipaka, Curly's Bar, Caveworld, Waitomo Discovery Centre, Spellbound, Huhu Café and Gift Shop, Waitomo Adventures, Big Bird B & B, Altura Park, Roseland's, Woodlyn Park, Rap, Raft and Rock, Abseil Inn, Top 10 Holiday Park, Wrightsons Otorohanga, Wrightsons Te Kuiti, Woolworths, Otorohanga Fresh Fruit & Vege, RD 1 Otorohanga, Waitomo Fresh Fruit Orchard, Waitomo Automotive Engineering, McDonalds, Goldpine, Michaels Milk Bar, Caves Motor Inn and Black Water Rafting.

Thank you to parents, families and senior students for working the canteen, making filled rolls, selling raffles and cooking the barbeque. Special thanks to all the families who baked and donated items for sale. Sincere thanks to Alannah and Batch for coordinating this fundraising event and doing the numerous jobs that go with it and accumulating so much support from businesses with sponsorship.



**WAITOMO
GLOW WORM
CAVES**
NEW ZEALAND



• Private Bag 501, Otorohanga.

• Telephone (07) 878-8227 • Facsimile (07) 878 8858

Proudly Supporting Waitomo Caves School

School Bus

We have received confirmation from the Ministry's transport division regarding our reinstated bus run. A new service will start at the beginning of Term 2 on Monday 19 April. The bus operator for this route will be Bayline Buses from Tauranga. The run starts at the Waipuna and Te Anga Road intersection at 8.10am and children will arrive at school at 8.30pm. Children will be collected as usual along Te Anga Road. The bus will depart school at 3.00pm for the return trip to Waipuna Road.

This change to the bus timetable will result in all children being at school for less time in the mornings and afternoons. Please read the attached policies on 'Before and After School' and 'School Bus'.

AgrikidsNZ

Congratulations to Cheyenne, Tasman, Jodie, Tai, Blaze, Angel, Aorangi, Trent and Dallas for competing with enthusiasm last Sunday at the AgrikidsNZ challenge. The Marine's team consisting of Aorangi, Trent and Dallas scored the second highest score to receive a place in the finals. Their overall placing was seventh and they just missed out in the national finals in Gore. Well done all teams. These children spent the day with lots of other kids who love farming, hunting, fishing, tramping, motor cross, horse riding and generally getting down and dirty – doing the real hands on things that we all love so much about being Kiwi kids.



Te Reo

A group of interested parents met with staff following our last discussions regarding a Te Reo programme for our school. Thank you for the support shared and it was lovely to met Paerau Bell, a wonderful resource person in Te Reo and Kapa Haka. Paerau will be working with our children to support a Te Reo programme in our school starting in Term 2. Thank you once again to the parents who are working towards extending our resources to support such a programme school wide.

Parent Meetings

Discussions at the last parent meetings led to finalising a set time for future parent meetings. After surveying our parent community the most popular time indicated was 3.00pm. It was also suggested that we limit the time spent on each topic area so meetings ran more effectively. If we are unable to complete our discussions at a particular parent meeting then we could arrange to meet on another day to carry on and finish off.

Our next parent meeting will be held on Tuesday 20 April at 3.00pm. Information will be shared by Timoti Harris (Otorohanga College prospectus) and Constable Steven Ryburn (Keeping Ourselves Safe).

WOW – Word of the Week

In the senior class students have been learning and using a special word of the week. There are several words that are part of our new vocabulary. Ask the children what their word of the week is. Here's a few to jog their memories: comprehension, displacement, genre, classification.

Winter Sports

This year there has been a lot of interest in Saturday competition soccer. We are fielding two teams that will play in Te Kuiti. A 6th Grade team (juniors) and a 13th Grade team (seniors). Juniors will play every Saturday at 9.00am and seniors 11.15am. Their first games will be on Saturday 24 April beginning with an opening day tournament.

There are half a dozen girls at all ages that are playing netball this year joining with Pukenui School teams. The draw will vary week from week however they will also be involved in an opening day tournament on Saturday 24 April.

Brett Coombe from King Country Rugby will be working with all our children during Thursday afternoons to support our winter sports programme focus of ball skills and teamwork. We will promote more rippa rugby ball skill activities in the senior class. Please help the children by being prepared every Thursday for the first five weeks of Term 2 and ensuring they have adequate PE clothes and footwear for these sessions.

Keeping Ourselves Safe

The Keeping Ourselves Safe programme is as a unit of work and will be ongoing. This programme teaches children a range of safe practices that they can use when interacting with other people. We will begin this programme in Term 2. Constable Steven Ryburn will be informing our parent community about the programme and his involvement in helping to implement it.

NZEI Union Meeting

The school has been advised by the NZEI Te Riu Roa that it is holding a Paid Union Meeting for teachers at 2.30pm on Wednesday 28 April. Accordingly, the majority of the school's teaching staff will be unavailable after 2.00pm on that date.

NZEI is the union that represents primary teachers, primary principals and support staff. Under the Employment Relations Act, paid union meetings are a legal entitlement to discuss union business, in this case, the proposed claims for the renewal of the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement and other key issues impacting on teaching and learning. In our experience NZEI calls paid union meetings infrequently and only when it believes that there is urgent and important business to discuss with its members.

Parents may choose to keep their child or children at home for the duration of the meeting or make some other arrangements. If you are sending your child

28 April. All entrants will receive a Certificate of Achievement. The best ten stories in each category will be forwarded to Hamilton City Library where winners will be selected. We hope some of your children will be interested in participating in this competition. For further information, please phone Sheila at the Library on 07 8737175.

St David's Otorohanga will be running a Holiday Programme for Primary school aged children in the week 13 to 16 April, from 9:30 am to 12 noon, with the theme "Transformers". (Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.) There will be a time of Bible teaching and singing, games, morning tea, and craft activities including woodwork and baking. A gold coin donation each day would be appreciated. Any parent able to stay and help for even one session would be most welcome. Please contact Dawn Phillips for St David's Session 07 8738735.

Women's Expo Proudly presented by Otorohanga Kindergarten, Wednesday 5th May, 7 pm onwards at the Otorohanga Club Function Room, 107 Maniapoto Street. Tickets - \$15 on sale shortly. Contact Iona for more information and a registration form: 07 873 8314 or 07 873 1543 iona.flowers@hotmail.com

Children's Work

When we went to the domain I got three guns and it was fun. I played with them. It was fun going to Sports Day.
By Max

We saw Mikyla and Courtney and we went back to Caveworld and we went back to the domain with my aunty. Her name is Josie and we got a gun.
By Tame

When we went to the domain I played on the bouncy castle. I liked playing on the bouncy castle. I got a lucky dip. In the lucky dip I got a card game. I got it out myself.
By Keely

At the field days we saw our Nana. When my Nana was here my mum got me a gun.
By Elijah

I saw Mikyla and Courtney at the domain and we played and played at the domain.
By Te Rito

What's Coming Up At Waitomo Caves School

1 April	Community Assembly
1 April	Last day of Term 1
19 April	Start of Term 2
20 April	Parent Meeting
23 April	BOT nominations close
28 April	Teachers Union Meeting
7 May	BOT voting day

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Principal ☺

Have a Happy Easter everyone!

Photo Gallery

